

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please add the following new paragraph starting on page 1, before "TECHNICAL FIELD."

**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a 35 U.S.C. §371 National Stage filing of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2005/001726, titled LINKER COMPOUND, LIGAND CONJUGATE, AND PRODUCTION METHODS THEREOF, filed February 4, 2005; which claims priority to Japanese Application No. 29562/2004, titled LINKER COMPOUND, LIGAND CONJUGATE, AND PRODUCTION METHODS THEREOF, filed February 5, 2004; both of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.